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Payson's Pie Queen Illuminates Christmas

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Payson Correspondent

PAYSON — Connie Hansen, touched by the spirit of Christmas, decided to bake and sell meat pies to help a disabled neighbor pay some utility bills.

Little did she know that a week later, others diagnosed to have the same infectious Christmas disease would buy 2,300 of these mini Christmas feasts and provide a great deal more than a little electricity for all involved.

Hansen, a struggling single parent of four children, said, "We needed a baking facility at the local LDS church to meet the overwhelming demands of pies but we were afraid they wouldn't let us in with our Coke bottles and cans."

But they did.

The church, family, fellow employees of Hansen at Birrells Clipping Service in Provo and other friends did let Santa's bakers into their lives and kitchens.

Mrs. Hansen's sister, when asked if she would eat one of the 2,300 pies that she helped bake, said, "Everyone tells us they are delicious. If I see another pie before I die it will be too soon."

Dennis Patterson Photos

Pies, pies everywhere in the kitchen at the Payson LDS Sixth Ward (above) with proceeds going to help pay utility bills for the needy. Connie Hansen (left and above) got the holiday spirit and the ball rolling on the project that grew far beyond her expectations

In the middle of the hectic pie-baking week, Hansen was scheduled to go bowling. While at the lanes someone wanted to do a few favors for her but she replied, "I don't take charity."

Her friends reminded her, "How can you give help with the right spirit and expect it to be received without embarrassment. You let your pride keep others from being kind to you."

One of Hansen's fellow employees said he couldn't handle pie crusts but donated a $100 to help her friend get a telephone installed.

Hansen's disabled friend must take care of her own adult daughter who is emotionally disabled and can desperately use the $1,200 worth of aid created by selling the beef pies for 75 each, Hansen said.

The pies are delivered by children working as Santa's helpers all over Utah Valley.

The Daily Herald

parked just outside the facility, not far from the runway, witnesses said.

There was no indication

Georges Courtois, fired randomly over the heads of reporters and toward police from a balcony.

Courtois with grenade, gun

es Hostages To Be Free by Christmas

Americans missing in Lebanon wrote to Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie on Nov. 8 appealing for his intervention to secure the Americans' release.

Waite was taken from Beirut airport by Shiite Amal militiamen to a west Beirut hotel as soon as his Middle East Airlines jetliner touched down after flying from London.

Reporters and television crews were barred from the airport terminal by Amal security men.

Waite later announced he would hold a news conference before returning to the west Beirut hideaway he has used on his previous visits to await contact from the kidnappers.

am Party
Elections

captured only 20 seats despite a four-day campaign trip to Assam last week by the prime minister.

It was the second major electoral loss for Gandhi this year, following the defeat of his Congress Party last Sept. 25 in another state plagued by communal strife, Punjab.

None of the 14 national parliament races had been decided and Congress Party officials said they would not concede defeat until all the votes were counted.

If the trend continued, election analysts said, the AGP would capture an absolute majority of the 125-seat assembly, without the necessity of forming a coalition.

Celebrations that began late Tuesday continued Thursday with thousands of dancing, cheering peo-